Headquarters, Marine Corps
Sergeants Major Symposium

Awards Brief

Presented by

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Deputy Head, MilAwdsBr

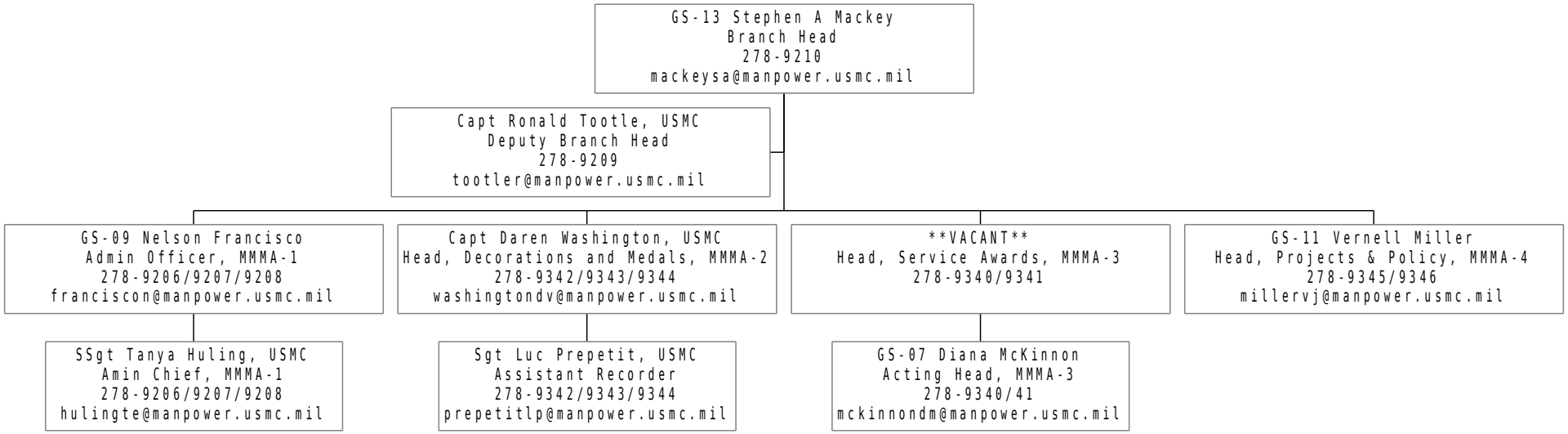
HQMC Military Awards Branch Mission Statement

The Mission of the HQMC Military Awards Branch is to receive, board, prepare, and transmit to the field, all awards submitted for approval to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Additionally, the Awards Branch is responsible for ensuring that, once received, all Field Approved Awards are forwarded to MMSB for inclusion into the Marines Official Military Personnel File.

The Branch is also the conduit for

Organization, Military Awards Branch

09/09/16



Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMMA)

3280 Russell Road

Quantico, Virginia 22134-5103

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Purpose

- Policy issues
  - Combat Action Ribbon
  - Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal
  - Expedite Awards
  - Awards submitted after five years
- Commander/ SgtMaj responsibilities
- Electronic submission of Awards

Combat Action Ribbon

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- Old Policy
  - 1 Mar 1961 to present
  - “Actively participated in bona fide ground or surface combat fire fight”
- MarAdmin 168/00
  - Retroactive date to 7 Dec 1941 (3500 cases to date)
- SecNav Approved Change to Policy
  - Unique CAR criteria for Peace Keeping Operations
  - Must have received hostile direct fire but could not return fire due to rules of engagement or tactical situation (MarAdmin in staff)

Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal

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- Current policy
  - End of Tour
    - Awarding Authority: First Flag in the Chain of Command
  - Specific Achievement
    - Awarding authority: BnCmdr with Special Courts-Martial Convening Authority.
    - ALMAR 104/95: Increased the number a Commander can approve from 1:25 to 2:25 of their T/O.
    - Awarded for Specific Achievement (IMPACT) **NOT** End of Tour. Specific Achievement is defined as “a single act or action that warrants recognition” or “superior performance on a specific task generally not to exceed 6 months.”
- Proposed Change to Policy (to SecNav)
  - Full awarding Authority to BnCmdr with SPCM CA (EOT & Impact)
  - SOA for all NMCAM will be limited to 1 page, bullet format
  - Awards for principal staff must be submitted to higher headquarters

Expedite Awards

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- MCO 1650.19H states 60 days for off peak and 90 days during peak (summer) for processing awards
  - Receive many requests for expedite awards during summer months
  - Policy
    - MMMA will expedite retirement, Changes of Command, and Posts and Relief
    - Require email from highest level command to CMC (MMMA) requesting expedite and reason the award is submitted late which is forwarded to CMC as part of the award package

Old Awards

- For awards that are submitted that are older than five years:
  - Originator is responsible to
    1. Awards must be submitted by former CO or other officer with first-hand knowledge. Petitioner responsible to find old CoC
    2. Send through present Chain of Command for approval based solely on the write-up or
    3. Send the award to MMMA for boarding. Must be originated by officer with personal first-hand knowledge. CoC endorsements vital

Old Awards

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- Once the awards are approved, MMMA forwards the Citation and Certificate to the command nearest that persons home for delivery. The command is responsible to:
  - 1. Make liaison with the award recipient (contact info provided)
  - 2. Coordinate a presentation to coincide with the desires of the recipient or his/her family
  - 3. Coordinate press/PAO if desired
- If additional information (history of award) is needed on the conduct of the ceremony, award, or the recipient, contact Mr. Thoerig at 278-9346.

Awards Processing System Website

Commander Responsibilities

Introduction

"The Personal Awards Program is a tool for Commanders to recognize the contributions of the Marines and Sailors entrusted to them. As commanders, we must place the appropriate emphasis on the Awards Program at all levels. This action serves two purposes: First, it allows tangible recognition to those Marines and Sailors whose actions are clearly deserving of recognition. Second, we send a message to his or her peers that we will reward superior performance." Gen J. L. Jones **ALMAR 019/00**

The Website

- In order to make the new Awards Processing System available to the entire Marine Corps, an internet site was developed for originating, forwarding and approving awards online from anywhere in the world
  - Training was conducted Marine Corps wide (MarAdmin 150/00)
- By 1 Oct 2000, all awards will be submitted via this database
- Every MarAdmin/ALMAR released since 1995 is located on the website
- The Website can be accessed from the MarineLink website (WWW.USMC.MIL) or directly at the following URL:
  - http://awards.manpower.usmc.mil

Questions?